

February 13, 2024

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
DISTRICT #63-240 COUNTIES OF  
OAKLAND, LIVINGSTON, AND WASHTENAW**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Abbate called the February 13, 2024 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Anthony Abbate, Daniel Schwegler, Jennifer Urtel, Martin Leftwich, Teresa Laszlo, Patrick Maguire, Ann Rimanelli

**Absent:** None

**Administration Present:** Steven Archibald, Superintendent, Brian Toth, Asst. Superintendent, Lisa Kudwa, Asst. Superintendent, Chris Gray, Asst. Superintendent

**Administration Absent:** None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board, administration and the audience joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**RECOGNITION**

Mr. Toth introduced Mr. Andrew Kaschalk from the Leadership Class at CMS. Mr. Kaschalk introduced two students from the program, Reese and Audrina. Reese was the first to present on what class activities the program were involve with during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. Some of the activities were selling candy, spirit week, positive sticky notes, Leader Research Project, assisting classes and students, WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Olympic Games. Audrina spoke about such activities as Interview a Leader, Bartlett Field Trip, and Penny Wars for Wish Upon a Team. Both students explained what was involved with each activity. When asked what their favorite part of the program was, they stated working with other students and working around the school. They also shared that the favorite leader that they interviewed was the former Mayor Daniel Pelchat. Mr. Abbate stated that the work that the class does with the incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders giving positive reinforcement is a big deal and makes those incoming students feel at home. Mr. Archibald expressed that it makes a difference having these students helping other students, being out in the buildings, and creating leadership activities. Mr. Archibald visited the classroom early in the year and was impressed by what was happening.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Abbate offered an opportunity for public comments.

*Susan Woodley, SLEA Representative* shared the “Good News” happening around the district.

- Josh Wells shared that MMS hosted a book drive for Mott Children’s Hospital and the DAR (Daughters of American Revolution) are giving them an award for donating 10,000 books to the Mott Hospital Giving Library.

- Toni Simovski shared SLHS students Nick Simovski and Eva Manevski earned 1<sup>st</sup> place in Dynamic Planet at the Plymouth Canton Science Olympiad Invitational, featuring 40 teams from across the state. The team competes next at the Oakland County Regional on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Nick and Eva also earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Dynamic Planet at the Battle of States Science Olympiad Invitational, featuring nearly 100 teams from five midwestern states.
- Marie Sarnacki acknowledged that SL East is sending four teams to the Regional Mock Trial competition on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The students prepare for the competition by learning about the law and rules of evidence. They act as lawyers and witnesses in three separate trials. The students are responsible for writing opening and closing statements, questioning witnesses, and objecting to improper evidence.
- Erica Wilson shared that the Dungeons & Dragons Club is very popular at MMS. There are 31 students participating in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester session.
- Last week was Charity Week at South Lyon High School. They raised \$4,740 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Events included yoga, hypnotists, movie night and a dance.
- Both high schools had representative participate in the LVC Student Activities meeting at Dave and Busters where they worked on team building and cross-conference collaborations. Anna Lassan, Bhanuni Sureddi, Tanvi Gadiraju were the representatives from SL East, while Ariana Lawrence, Julia Stojov, Mia Mason and Taylor Luke were the representatives from SLHS.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

President Abbate asked the Board to approve the agenda as presented unless they had any additions or deletions.

Moved by Mr. Maguire, supported by Mr. Leftwich to approve the agenda as presented.

**Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried 7-0.**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Abbate asked the Board to approve the minutes from the January 30, 2024 Board of Education Regular Meeting.

Moved by Dr. Laszlo, supported by Mrs. Urtel to approve the minutes from the January 30, 2024 Regular Meeting.

**Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried 7-0.**

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

President Abbate asked the Board to approve the following bills as presented:

- January 2024 Prepays
- January 2024 Bond Run
- January 2024 Wires & ACH Transactions
- January 2024 Revenue Report



Moved by Mr. Schwegler, supported by Mrs. Rimanelli to approve the bills as presented.

**Roll Call:** Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes,  
Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

#### **REVISIONS TO POLICY 4004 - EVALUATIONS, DISCIPLINE AND DISCHARGE, RESIGNATIONS**

Mr. Toth reported that this policy was brought to the Board for information at the January 30, 2024 Board of Education meeting. Here is the [link](#) with the proposed revisions.

Mr. Toth asked the Board to approve this policy as presented.

- Policy 4004 (Evaluations, Discipline and Discharge, Resignations)

Moved by Mr. Leftwich, supported by Mrs. Rimanelli to approve the Policy 4004 as presented.

**Roll Call:** Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes,  
Mr. Schwegler – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS**

Mr. Toth shared that South Lyon High School Robotics team received \$1,000.00 from ConGlobal – ITS Technologies & Logistics LLC to be used for supplies, materials, travel, and food.

Mr. Toth asks the Board to accept the gift listed above in accordance with Policy 7003.

Moved by Mrs. Rimanelli, supported by Dr. Laszlo to accept the gift listed above in accordance with Policy 7003.

**Roll Call:** Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes,  
Mr. Maguire – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

#### **MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICE PURCHASE**

Mrs. Gray shared that the District seeks to purchase mobile communication devices for all district instructional buildings. She stated that the quote from the recommended bidder was given to the Board at the January 30, 2024 Board of Education meeting. She reported the amount of the total quote from Mobile Communications America is \$99,421.20. The District's SAT committee has recommended using 31aa grant funds to purchase the mobile communication devices. Mrs. Gray shared that each school would have one device model, which will be fully digital and provide improved clarity, reception, and less frequency interruptions.

Mrs. Gray asked the Board to approve the recommended bid as presented.

Moved by Mr. Maguire, supported by Dr. Laszlo to approve the recommended bid as presented.

**Roll Call:** Mr. Schwegler – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes,  
Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

**2023-24 BUDGET REVISION**

Mrs. Gray shared the 2023-24 Budget Revision with the Board of Education. She reported that the revision was presented to the Finance Committee on February 12, 2024. Mrs. Gray stated that no changes were requested.

**2023-24 Revised Budget Presentation**

Mrs. Gray asked the Board to approve the recommended 2023-24 budget revision as presented.

Moved by Mr. Schwegler, supported by Mrs. Rimanelli to approve the recommended 2023-24 budget revision as presented.

**Roll Call:** Mr. Schwegler – yes, Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Mr. Archibald encouraged everyone to reach out to our legislators and them to continue with the record increases in per pupil funding, as it has been the last two years. He stated that South Lyon is one of the lowest funded districts in Oakland County.

**2020 BOND BID PACK #23: BARTLETT, CMS, AND MMS ROOFING RESTORATION PROJECT BID RECOMMENDATION**

Mrs. Gray stated that the bids for the roofing restoration work at Bartlett, CMS, and MMS were received on January 30, 2024. She shared that a post-bid review meeting was conducted by Barton Malow and IDS with the contractor on February 2, 2024. Mrs. Gray noted that the bid pack was review with the ARC Committee and the Facility Planning Committee. She stated that the committees approved bringing the following bid to the Board for approval.

Bid Category	Contractor	Base Bid	Alternates Total	Total Contract
Roofing	D7BCI	\$1,010,610	\$53,014	\$1,063,624

Mrs. Gray asked the Board to approve the recommended bid as presented.

Moved by Mrs. Urtel, supported by Mr. Maguire to approve the recommended bid as presented.

**Roll Call:** Mrs. Urtel – yes, Mr. Maguire – yes, Mrs. Rimanelli – yes, Mr. Leftwich – yes, Mr. Abbate – yes, Dr. Laszlo – yes, Mr. Schwegler – yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Mr. Schwegler shared that this bid came in well under the original projected amount.

**LEGISLATION**

Mr. Archibald shared that there is nothing much to report. He did state that it is important as educators and citizens to advocate on behave of our students and our public schools.

**CITA COMMENTS**

Mrs. Kudwa shared the Non-Resident Schools of Choice Resolution, guidelines, and application for the 2024-25 School Year with the Board. Mrs. Kudwa noted that this would keep open schools of choice at certain locations in the district for non-resident students in grades JK-8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade at South Lyon East High School. She stated that this item would be brought to the March 5, 2024 meeting for approval.



**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Legislative** – Mr. Leftwich shared that he was at the OCSBA meeting and there was discussion about a bill on dyslexia screening with the Senate Education Committee. He addressed information on a bill in the House Committee regarding the extension of the emergency interim teaching certificates for Special Education, which is set to expire, but the need continues. Mr. Leftwich stated that there are good things coming out of the governor's initial budget, including a proposed 2.5% per pupil increase, funding for GSRP continuation, 31a funding and school meals. He has information on the MASB Board of Directors election. He reported that the Board should have received information about the candidates. Mr. Leftwich noted that the Board will vote for the candidate at the next meeting, March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Policy** – Mr. Abbate noted that the committee is continuing to work on items they received as recommendation from Miller Johnson.
- **Finance** – Mr. Schwegler acknowledged that Mrs. Gray shared all of the Finance Committee information.
- **Facilities and Grounds** – Mrs. Urtel shared the current items that are receiving bids throughout the district are paving at CMS, and sidewalks at SL East High School. She noted an ongoing project is the pool addition at SLHS. Science labs at the high school are completed. Also, roofing bids were approved tonight.
- **Curriculum & Communications** – Mrs. Urtel noted they haven't had a meeting since the last Board of Education meeting.

**OTHER**

Mr. Archibald reminded everyone about the upcoming election on February 27<sup>th</sup>. He gave the background of the Non-Homestead Operating Millage Renewal and Restoration. He stressed that this is not a new tax, it is a renewal of an existing levy on non-homestead properties. He addressed that these are properties are not primary owned residences. Mr. Archibald gave example of non-homestead properties which include vacation homes, industrial commercial business, investment, and rental properties. He shared that a person's primary home property tax rate would be unaffected. Mr. Archibald stated that this renewal provides critical revenue to support day-to-day operations of our schools, including staffing costs, instructional programs and materials, extracurricular programs, transportation, and maintenance, as well as other items. He stated that people should reach out to him if they had any questions.

**REPORTS**

- **South Lyon Educational Foundation** – Mr. Maguire shared that the foundation is working on Mini-grants for teachers, scholarships for students, and Social Emotional Learning dogs. He reported that they are hoping to bring back a popular fund-raiser.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - There were no additional public comments.

**MEETING DATES**

- March 5, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- March 19, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- April 16, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- May 7, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- May 21, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- June 3, 2024 (Monday), *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*
- June 18, 2024, *Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.*

**BOARD COMMENTS**

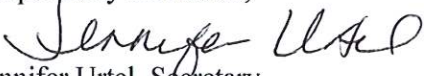
- **Dr. Laszlo** thanked the CMS Leadership students for presenting tonight. She said she always appreciates hearing about the “Good Things” from around the district. Dr. Laszlo wished everyone a safe and restful Mid-Winter Break.
- **Mr. Maguire** was impressed by the Leadership Program and their presentation. Mr. Maguire said that it was great to see young people step up as leaders. He thanked Mrs. Gray and the Finance Committee for their hard work and the detailed explanation of the budget. Mr. Maguire wished everyone a Happy Valentine’s Day.
- **Mrs. Rimanelli** wished everyone a wonderful Mid-Winter Break. She congratulated the Solo Ensemble and the Pom Teams for their performances this past weekend. Mrs. Rimanelli thanked the administrators for stepping up last week at Brummer so the staff could attend and support the Post family. She thanked Mrs. Gray for all of her hard work on the budget.
- **Mrs. Urtel** acknowledged the “cross-town rivalry” Basketball games last Friday. She shared that South Lyon High School’s has a Band Concert on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Urtel wished the winter sports’ teams good luck as they wind down their seasons. She noted that last week was School Counselor Appreciation Week. Mrs. Urtel hoped that everyone has a great Mid-Winter Break.
- **Mr. Schwegler** wished good luck to the teams that are still competing this winter. He thanked Mrs. Gray for her work on the budget.
- **Mr. Leftwich** thanked the Finance Team for their work on the budget. He enjoyed the presentation from the CMS Leadership students here tonight. Mr. Leftwich also thanked the staff that teaches these students and those who are cultivating that leadership. He wished everyone a safe Mid-Winter Break.
- **Mr. Abbate** agreed with all the things said by the other Board Members. He loved seeing the students coming out and presenting tonight. Mr. Abbate thanked everyone for their hard work.

**ADJOURN**

Moved by Dr. Laszlo, supported by Mr. Leftwich to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

**Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jennifer Urtel, Secretary  
Board of Education